



# BUDGET COMMITTEE



Judd Gregg, Ranking Member  
<http://budget.senate.gov/republican>

Contact: Betsy Holahan (202)224-6011

**For Immediate Release**

**February 2, 2010**

## **Senator Gregg: TARP is Not a Piggybank for the President's Priorities**

Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH), ranking member of the Senate Budget Committee, today reacted to President Obama's proposal to use \$30 billion that was repaid under the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) to create a small business loan fund. Senator Gregg was one of the lead congressional negotiators on legislation that created TARP in October 2008, and authored language in that law that requires repaid funds be applied to reducing the debt.

"TARP is not a piggybank. Under the TARP law, repaid TARP funds must be used to reduce the debt -- and given that we will have a \$1.6 trillion deficit this year and the Senate just voted to increase the debt limit to more than \$14 trillion, the requirements of the TARP law should not be changed.

"TARP worked as intended during the financial crisis, but the crisis has passed, and the program is no longer needed. However, the Administration has extended TARP authority through October even though it does not have plans to use the remaining authority for purposes intended by the TARP law. TARP dollars should not be used as a slush fund for the President's other priorities. The TARP program should end immediately, and, as the TARP law requires, all repaid funds should be used to reduce our staggering debt burden, not used in a way that will add to it."